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Top 10 Medications for Respiratory System Drugs

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Objectives: In our country, drug consumption due to respiratory system is increasing. In this study, we aimed to compare the first 10 of the drugs prescribed by ENT, Chest Diseases and Emergency Medicine specialists in 2017.

Methods: According to IMS data, the first 10 medications prescribed by ENT, Chest Diseases and Emergency Medical Specialists were evaluated. According to drug groups, comparisons were made among the fields of expertise.

Results: In 2017, a total of 2 billion boxes of drugs were sold and 450 million inspections were carried out. Approximately 25% of these examinations were performed in emergency department, while 5% were performed by ENT specialists and 2.5% by chest specialists. In 2017, 67 million boxes were prescribed when the 10 most prescribed drugs were listed. The analgesics that constitute the first 3 of these 10 drugs were prescribed as 24.5 million boxes. Only the first 10 drugs included bronchodilator syrup. The first 4 (52.6%) of the first 10 prescribed drugs were analgesic and one antibiotic. The first 4 (58%) of the first 10 drugs prescribed by ENT specialists consisted of nasal and ear drops, while the first 4 (53%) of the first 10 drugs prescribed by chest diseases specialists were made up of inhaled drugs. In total, 62.4% of the first 10 prescribed drugs and 73.7% of the first 10 prescribed drugs were composed of analgesics ($p < 0.01$). The percentage of antibiotics in the top 10 drug percentages was higher than the others with a rate of 16% in the prescriptions of chest diseases, but the percentage of antibiotic prescribing did not differ significantly with 13.9% in the emergency ($p > 0.05$). While 61% of the first 10 drugs in the chest diseases prescription were inhaler control and bronchodilators, 70% of ENT prescriptions included nose and ear drops. Again, 17.2% of the chest diseases prescriptions were cough syrups and mucolytics, and 5% were leukotriene antagonists and combinations.

Conclusion: While 1/5 of the first 10 prescribed medications were written in emergency, 14% were composed of respiratory system medications prescribed by ENT and chest diseases specialists. The first 10 of the prescribed medications are 7 groups of drugs.

Keywords: Prescribe, top 10, respiratory system drugs